



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Attorney Docket No. 15554US01)

In the Application of:

Mike Nipke
Serial No. 10/781,233
Filed: February 18, 2004
For: UMBRELLA
UNDERCANOPY
FASTENING SYSTEM
Examiner: Winnie S. Yip
Group Art Unit: 3637

EV 436254303 US

Express Mail No.

January 27, 2005

Date

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97-1.98 and in compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that the following references be considered in the examination of the above-identified patent application:

U.S. REFERENCES:

| <u>U.S. PATENT NO.</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>INVENTOR(S)</u> |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| D130,643 | 12/1941 | Hose, C.G. |
| 3,215,831 | 11/1965 | Gladsen et al. |
| D208,917 | 10/1967 | Mellyn, Lawrence P. |
| 4,072,857 | 02/1978 | DeVicaris, Guy A. |
| D295,400 | 04/1988 | Wung, Peter C. |

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|--------------|---------|--------------------------|
| 4,994,631 | 02/1991 | Williams, Jr., Howard M. |
| 5,584,357 | 12/1996 | Gugel et al. |
| D378,913 | 04/1997 | Chambers et al. |
| D379,176 | 05/1997 | Chambers et al. |
| D379,970 | 06/1997 | Chambers et al. |
| 5,776,559 | 07/1998 | Woolford, Esther |
| 5,907,127 | 05/1999 | Daoud, Bassel H. |
| 5,911,493 | 06/1999 | Walker et al. |
| 6,070,808 | 06/2000 | Kildow, Richard D. |
| 6,209,147 | 04/2001 | Wheaton, Michael David |
| D467,877 | 12/2002 | Mori et al. |
| 6,627,816 | 09/2003 | Walker et al. |
| 2004/0100791 | 05/2004 | Bilotti et al. |

FOREIGN REFERENCES:

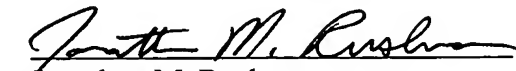
| <u>PATENT NO.</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>COUNTRY</u> |
|-------------------|-------------|----------------|
| 0,851,178 | 07/1998 | Europe |

The above-identified references are listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 and a copy of the foreign reference is enclosed. Copies of the U.S. references are not enclosed in accordance with the Official Gazette Notice posted August 5, 2003, which waived the requirement that copies of U.S. references be submitted with information disclosure statements filed in applications filed after June 30, 2003.

This submission is in no way intended as an admission that the above-cited references constitute prior art. Applicant expressly retains the right to take any actions necessary to remove the above-cited references from the available prior art. Consideration of the above-identified references in the examination of the present patent application is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Account No. 13-0017.

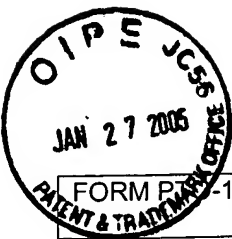
Respectfully submitted,


Jonathan M. Rushman
Registration No. 55,870

1/27/05
Date

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Telephone: (312) 775-8000
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|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| FORM P-1449 | SERIAL NO. 10/781,233 | CASE NO. 15554US01 |
| LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT | FILING DATE February 18, 2004 | GROUP ART UNIT 3637 |
| (use several sheets if necessary) | | APPLICANT(S): Mike Nipke |

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS/ SUBCLASS | FILING DATE |
|---------------------|-----|--------------------|---------|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | A1 | D130,643 | 12/1941 | Hose, C.G. | | |
| | A2 | 3,215,831 | 11/1965 | Gladsen et al. | | |
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| | A9 | D379,176 | 05/1997 | Chambers et al. | | |
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| | A19 | | | | | |
| | A20 | | | | | |

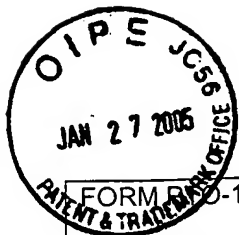
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS/ SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES NO |
|---------------------|-----|--------------------|---------|---------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| | A21 | 0,851,178 | 07/1998 | Europe | | |
| | A22 | | | | | |
| | A23 | | | | | |

| EXAMINER INITIAL | OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | |
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| | A24 | |
| | A25 | |
| | A26 | |

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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



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|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| FORM 1449-1449 | SERIAL NO. 10/781,233 | CASE NO. 15554US01 |
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